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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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DOGM
MINERALS PROGRAM
FILE COPY

December 18, 1990

Mr. Greig Watkins
General Manager
Topaz Mine
Brush Wellman, Incorporated
P. O. Box 815
Delta, Utah 84624

Dear Mr. Watkins:

Re: Reclamation Visit and Meeting, Topaz Mine, M/023/003, Juab County, Utah

I would like to thank you and others of the Brush Wellman staff, for the very informative and productive update on the Topaz Mine MRP, and site tour, Thursday of last week. I feel that the visit was very successful. I was also impressed by the extent of reclamation that has been accomplished thus far at the mine. BLM staff present during the visit expressed the same sentiments, to me.

It is my impression, at this time, that Brush is keeping to the letter of the commitments made in the approved, 1988, MRP. It is also my impression that Brush is attempting to improve on some of the commitments made in the MRP, which we commend.

The Division has no major concerns regarding the reclamation work at the Topaz site. However, to maintain continuity, we are asking that Brush address the progress regarding contemporaneous reclamation in the upcoming annual report, and to incorporate into the report, a more detailed breakdown of areas reclaimed and costs.

This is needed because of the dynamic nature of the reclamation surety agreement and, thereby, the need for timely and accurate record keeping. Also, the BLM expressed an interest in having Brush include some information in the annual report, which would be useful for their records. I will ask them to send you this information at a later date. Regarding the due date for the 1991 annual report, I indicated to you that we would extend it to March 31, 1991.

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Information in the annual report and upcoming site visit this spring, 1991, will be used to determine the surety release of the reclaimed areas. The BLM will also be involved in the release of those areas specified.

Please find enclosed the material I promised I would copy to you: 1) a letter from Brush to the Division describing the steady-state, reclamation surety; 2) pages from the MRP addressing the chronological reclamation program; 3) recommended draught-salt tolerant plant species for the Topaz site; and 4) letter to Brush describing the final reclamation surety and updated pages from the plan showing changes to the base amount.

I wanted to mention that the Division is aware of the drought problems currently being experienced by your region. This will be taken into account regarding the future surety release of areas reclaimed under these unfavorable conditions.

Thank you for your diligence, thus far, and interest in successful reclamation at the Topaz site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Holland Shepherd".

Holland Shepherd
Reclamation Specialist

jb
Enclosure
cc: Phil Allard, BLM, Warm Springs RA
Lee Davis, Brush Wellman
Wayne Hedberg, DOGM
MNM023003.1